



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1206

DATE: January 8, 2013

TO: Intermediate Care Facilities for Intellectual Disability (ICF/ID)

FROM: The Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

SUBJECT: Money Follows the Person Expansion and Additional Responsibilities #1

Prior to July 1 2012, many county social workers were attending annual interdisciplinary team (IDT) meetings of residents of ICF/ID facilities to provide monitoring and offer community choices. Pursuant to Senate File 2336, counties are no longer responsible for funding any costs under the Medicaid program and therefore will no longer be attending annual IDT meetings or monitoring progress. The Department of Human Services (DHS) has been in communication with county staff, providers, and other stakeholders regarding who will represent the interest of the funder and the individual at future IDT meetings.

In the spirit of the 1999 Olmstead Supreme Court Decision, DHS would like to continue to partner with ICF/ID providers to ensure that all residents have a state contact and are offered choices for services. To meet this need during 2013, Money Follows the Person (MFP) transition specialists will attend ICF/ID residents' annual IDT meetings for residents funded by Iowa Medicaid. The transition specialist can assist with discussing community options with the interdisciplinary team and the resident, and be a resource to facilitate discharge planning. Another letter will be forthcoming informing ICF/ID providers which MFP Transition Specialist will be assigned to their facility, along with contact information and additional information. If an ICF/ID provider already has a relationship established with an MFP Transition Specialist, they may begin inviting that specialist to annual meetings now.

Background of MFP

In 2007, Iowa received a \$51 million federal "Money Follows the Person" grant to assist residents of ICF/ID facilities to move into a community of their choice. To date, Iowa has transitioned 222 individuals into the community. Iowa's MFP grant is authorized through 2016 with the possibility of a further extension.

This grant provides enhanced funding for services intended to support a successful transition and to help support participants in community living. The assistance of a transition specialist in coordinating transition planning, implementation, and follow up in securing essential services are included in this project. Individuals choosing to participate in MFP are able to access the current services available in the HCBS Intellectual Disability waiver as well as enhanced grant services for 365 days after transition in the community. Individuals will then transition over to the HCBS waiver program.

Please direct any questions to the MFP Project Coordinator, Brooke Lovelace at blovela@dhs.state.ia.us or 515-256-4637.